crores. This scheme is being implemented through 20 State/Central research institution throughout the country for setting up of herbal gardens of medicinal plants, multiplication of planting material of improved varieties and setting up analytical laboratories.

(c) Under the scheme one herbal garden and one nursery have been established in Maharashtra (Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri) at an expenditure of Rs. 1.943 lakhs.

**National Poultry Development Board**

1344. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a National Poultry Development Board on the lines of National Dairy Development Board;

(b) if so, the details and objective thereof; and

(c) the details of the work likely to be performed by the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) Government have not taken any decision to constitute a National Poultry Development Board.

**Hybrid varieties of rice, wheat and cotton**

1345. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that I.R.R.I. Malaysia have produced a variety called Super Rice whose prototype is already performing as the most prolific rice variety and similarly the new hybrid variety in cotton and wheat are also under trial in various other institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce these varieties of rice, wheat and cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). There is no super rice variety produced at IRRI, Malaysia. However, scientists at IRRI, Phillipines have developed a new plant type concept which promises to yield 20-25% more grain yield that the existing HYVIs. They hope to be able to develop such variety by the end of this century. And no variety has been released so far.

No High yielding hybrid variety of wheat has been developed so far. Work carried out in other countries and the hybrid wheat varieties released have not shown outstanding promise.

As regards cotton, India is pioneer in development of hybrid varieties.. India was the first country to develop and release hybrid cotton varieties. India has also the largest area under hybrid cotton.

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The latest hybrid cotton varieties released in India are TN 1312 for Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, JKHY2 for Madhya Pradesh, HH 16 for Rajasthan, HH 81 for Haryana and Fateh for Punjab. These hybrids yield 15-20% more than the most popular varieties under cultivation. Large quantities of seeds of hybrid varieties of cotton is being produced by State Agricultural Universities, State and National Seed Corporations and private agencies.

**Proposal for the development of iron ore deposit at Bailadila mines**

1346. SHRI. SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been submitted by the National Mineral Devslapment Corporation (NMDC) for developing the iron ore deposits at Bailadila mines in Madhya Pradesh;